

NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ANNUAL REPORT – 2003

2003 was eventful because it marked the beginning of the development of a National Grand Strategy for homeland security. Any such strategy must begin with understanding what local responders view as primary concerns and expectations. Input from local emergency management agencies to NEMA helped immensely in preparing our state strategic plan, which will go forward for approval in 2004.

I am very proud of how Nebraska has been able to allocate and utilize the equipment grants from the federal government over the past three years. Many major holes in capability have been plugged. When this is combined with our regional response concept I believe Nebraska is second to none in having a sound basis for enhanced public safety.

But the rules for grants will change beginning in 2004 when we must begin linking projects to our published strategy. Funding for equipment will no longer be automatic. To be successful, local public safety entities will have to work together and with the appropriate political entities to develop projects that lead to integrated enhanced safety.

We have daunting challenges ahead. But as this year's report shows we have every reason to expect success building on a solid record of performance.



Major General Roger P. Lempke,
The Adjutant General and NEMA Director

Every year the lives of thousands of Nebraska citizens are touched by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. As we close out 2003 and move into 2004, NEMA takes a look at the milestones we passed together as an Agency in support of our Federal and local partners while carrying out our Agency Mission.

As you read this report, you will see the wide scope of activities carried out by the staff members of NEMA. Everything from the spring and summer storms, tornadoes and flooding that led to a Federal Disaster Declaration to the coordinating work that integrated emergency management functions into the homeland security activities of our state.

The work being completed by NEMA and our partners at the local level have risen to greater importance than ever before. "We" are working together to carry out the traditional phases of emergency management - preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. At the same time, we are supporting the work of the Lt. Governor as Director of Homeland Security and the activities coming from the new Department of Homeland Security.

Please accept this report as a comprehensive overview of this past year's activities in support of our Governor, other state agencies and ultimately our State's most valuable resources---its citizens.



Al Berndt, Assistant Director

AGENCY OVERVIEW

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's primary focus is the support of an effective emergency response system through emphasis on pre- and post-disaster programs that enhance NEMA's response capabilities.

In order for the Agency and State to respond to and recover from disasters and major emergencies, three primary functions of the Agency receive strong emphasis. They are the Operations Management System (OMS) and the Preparedness and Response and Recovery divisions.

But...emergency management is now more than tornadoes, floods and winter storms. The Agency continues to support local emergency management directors in their planning, training and exercise programs that address these natural perils facing all Nebraskans. At the same time, the Agency must now focus considerable attention on terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, as well as hazardous materials related issues.

NEMA's structure has been realigned to focus its resources into four performance areas: Administration, Preparedness, Response and Recovery and Radiological Emergency Preparedness.

The Agency will continue to incorporate these emergency management function elements into its overall mission while moving the Agency toward a self-assessment process that is part of a national accreditation program. NEMA's goal is to support functions and exercises that emphasize the Operations Management System as well as preparedness, training and exercise. Our Number One priority is the coordination of programs necessary to achieve this goal.

ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

NEMA supported county Emergency Management agencies in the enhancement of their local programs by providing State and Local Emergency Management Assistance (SLA) funds to 21 agencies. A total of \$922,617 was made available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), which provides the funding on a 50/50 cost share basis.

Participating agencies are required to have either a certified, full-time director, deputy director or be part of an inter-jurisdictional organization. Each participant must submit a statement of work, a budget and training needs assessment.

During 2003, participating agencies completed a self-assessment instrument (called the Capability Assessment for Readiness) to identify their emergency management program strengths and areas needing improvement. The instrument provided a forum for collaborative dialogue between local agencies and NEMA and assisted in accurately assessing the status of the local/state partnership.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Domestic terrorism threats are an unfortunate reality. While the State of Nebraska is more likely to experience the hazards associated with natural and technological disasters, the terrorist threat must be taken seriously and plans made accordingly.

The Nebraska Strategy for Homeland Security is designed to:

1. Address the issues outlined in the *National Homeland Security Strategy* for states in supporting national efforts. Nebraska Homeland Security goals and objectives developed for this plan align with the critical mission areas outlined in the President's National Strategy; and
2. Describe the path that Nebraska will take in meeting homeland security goals and objectives. These goals and objectives are designed to mitigate the adverse impacts of and, to the greatest extent possible, provide protection for Nebraska's citizens from terrorist attacks.

In May of 1999, Governor Mike Johanns formed the Domestic Preparedness Leadership Group (DPLG) and tasked it with developing a comprehensive program of planning and training that would enable Nebraska to respond to a terrorist attack. Funded by a U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Equipment Grant, the DPLG conducted a statewide assessment of local capabilities and oversaw the development of a statewide strategy based upon first responder capabilities and vulnerabilities. The Leadership Group then distributed equipment in support of the statewide strategy.

In 2001, President George W. Bush issued an Executive Order establishing the Office of Homeland Security. Governor Johanns responded by appointing Lt. Governor Dave Heineman as Nebraska's Director of Homeland Security. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, since that time, has been tasked with providing logistical support to the Lt. Governor.

Governor Johanns also created the Homeland Security Policy Group, which replaced the Domestic Preparedness Leadership Group. He also created the Homeland Security Leadership Group and tasked it with developing a comprehensive program for planning, exercising and training relating to all forms of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction.

Homeland Security for the State of Nebraska is defined as a concerted state and local effort to prevent terrorist attacks within Nebraska, reduce our vulnerability to terrorism, respond to acts of terrorism and recover from attacks that occur.

The Homeland Security Policy Group is comprised of the following members: Lt. Governor Dave Heineman, Chairman; MG Roger Lempke, Adjutant General, Nebraska Military Department; Col. Tom Nesbitt, Superintendent, Nebraska State Patrol; Dennis Hohbein, State Fire Marshal; Christine Peterson, Policy Secretary Health and Human Services System; Dr. Harold Maurer, Chancellor, University of Nebraska Medical Center; Al Berndt, Assistant Director, NEMA and John Erickson, Governor's Policy and Research Office.

The Homeland Security Leadership Group consists of representatives from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Nebraska State Patrol, Department of Environmental Quality, Health and Human Services System, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Department of Agriculture, Department of Roads, Nebraska National Guard, Nebraska Attorney General's Office and State Fire Marshal.

During 2003, twelve local jurisdictions and three state agencies were selected to participate in an exercise development program that comprises a major portion of the State's Homeland Security initiatives. They are: Cherry, Madison, Lancaster, Gage, Sarpy, Douglas, Hall, Lincoln, Adams, Red Willow, Scotts Bluff and Region 23. The state agencies are: The Department of Roads, Department of Agriculture and Department of Environment Quality.

All of the local jurisdictions have signed memorandums of understanding. These MOU mean they will respond to any hazardous material incident or terrorist attack anywhere in Nebraska. Already, all the jurisdictions have been supplied with equipment that will enable them to respond to these types of incidents. Funding came from competitive federal grants from the Office of Domestic Preparedness.



Norfolk Fire Department personnel in a training exercise using hazardous materials equipment that was purchased using federal homeland security funds.

The State Homeland Security Assessment and Strategy was another major effort undertaken in 2003. All local jurisdictions completed the complicated process, which defined their capabilities and needs for planning, exercising, training and equipment that will enable them to respond to and recover from terrorist attacks. This assessment and strategy will be used by the State to complete its strategy and needs assessment. Grants from the ODP in 2004 and beyond will be based on this assessment and strategy.

In 2003, Nebraska received the following ODP grants: (NOTE: 80 percent of the funds must go to local jurisdictions to support their Homeland Security Strategy activities.)

Part One

Equipment Allocation	Exercise Allocation	Training Allocation	Planning Allocation	Total Allocation
\$4,389,500	\$1,097,000	\$329,000	\$439,000	\$6,254,500

Part Two

First Responder Preparedness	Critical Infrastructure Protection	Total Allocation
\$14,359,000	\$2,209,000	\$16,568,000

CERT and CITIZEN CORPS

CERT

During 2003, NEMA entered into a contract with the Lincoln/Lancaster Emergency Management Agency to support Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) across the state. Trailers used to haul the class materials anywhere in the state were provided and CERT classes were held in many jurisdictions.



This CERT trailer was delivered to NEMA by FEMA in October. It is used to deliver CERT materials to class locations anywhere in the state.

During 2003, 17 CERT classes were held in seven jurisdictions across Nebraska. A total of 260 citizens were trained in CERT.

A cornerstone of today's emergency management is a well-prepared citizenry that is ready and able to stand on its own for up to 72 hours without any outside assistance. CERT teaches the skills necessary to accomplish this. First aid, fire prevention, basic search and rescue, hazardous materials, emergency management/response and terrorism response are some of the topics covered in the classes.

The CERT program is being integrated into the 2004-2005 Office of Domestic Preparedness Citizen Corps grant program and will continue under the direction of NEMA.

Citizen Corps

Citizen Corps is a program designed to bring together local leaders in law enforcement, fire service, emergency response, emergency management, volunteer organizations, the private sector and local elected officials to form Citizen Corps Councils.

Nebraska received \$33,170 to enhance Citizen Corps activities at the local level through public education, training and volunteer opportunities.

A State Citizen Corps Advisory Council was created in 2003. Six local Citizen Corps Councils were developed in: Adams County, Cherry County, Omaha Police Department, Perkins County, Platte Center and Platte County/Columbus. These six jurisdictions were selected to receive funding for the local Citizen Corps programs based upon their completion of requests for proposals sent to all 93 counties in Nebraska.

Most of the participants used their funding for public information programs designed to make their citizens more aware of Citizen Corps and CERT. For example, Cherry County made informational materials available at the county fair and other public venues.

The City of Omaha used their funding to disseminate information to Spanish speaking people as well as English speaking Nebraskans. They used some of the funding to publish the Community Resource Center newsletter and Spanish supplements to that newsletter.

They also used the funding to promote CERT training available to local residents.

PLANNING, PREPAREDNESS, TRAINING AND EXERCISE

Keeping to the five-year schedule for plan revisions, 18 Local Emergency Operations Plans (LEOP) were revised in 2003 with an additional nine to be completed by the end of February 2004. At that time all plans scheduled for revision through 2003 will have been revised. NEMA planners have updated the generic LEOP for 2004 and are ready to start scheduling with the counties.

The new State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) was completed in July 2003, with the help of the State Homeland Security Planning Committee. The SEOP was rewritten from the perspective of a one-plan emergency response system that can readily respond to and assist in the recovery from any emergency, including terrorism.

Governor Mike Johanns was briefed on the new SEOP and he has approved it for distribution.

The Department of Homeland Security and Office of Domestic Preparedness requested each State complete an assessment and Strategic plan for 2004 funding. Four NEMA employees attended a workshop in Chicago June 10-11 to learn about the process and the on-line-collection tool. Five technical assistance workshops for local officials were held in Lincoln, Norfolk, Kearney, North Platte and Scottsbluff in August. To date, 92 counties have completed assessments using the on-line collection tool.

The State Homeland Security Planning Committee was also requested to help complete the State level assessment and write the Strategy. The strategy is scheduled for completion in January 2004. During 2003, the emergence of the Nebraska Homeland Security State Exercise Design Team became a factor in the exercise posture of the state. The State Design Team is comprised of members from 13 State Agencies as well as volunteers groups and the Federal Government.



State agency and volunteer organization representatives participate in a tabletop exercise.

2003 marked the first year that multiple State agencies conducted a functional WMD/Terrorism exercise. Five state agencies were involved in the process. The State of Nebraska was used as a pilot to test the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Plan (HSEEP), which will be instituted at the National level. Nebraska was also the first State to ever incorporate two WMD events in the same exercise.

In November 2004, the TERREX exercise will test the State Emergency Operations Plan. In support of this, the State conducted a tabletop exercise in 2003.

The State Design Team also conducted nine additional Homeland Security WMD/Terrorism Orientation exercises. These exercises were conducted on a monthly basis and were developed to meet the needs of previous exercises concerns. 2003 was the last year for support of the Planning, Exercising, Preparedness (PEP) process in which 11 model city exercises were also conducted.

NEMA continued to support the Governor's Homeland Security Program. The Five Year Homeland Security Comprehensive, Progressive Planning, Exercise and Training Plan was

developed in 2003. This plan lists all major planning, exercise and training events for the State and includes six major local exercises as well as all REP exercises. The State Design Team also assisted the State Planning Team in the rewrite of the State Emergency Operations Plan this year.

SUPPORT TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

NEMA, with the assistance of Department of Homeland Security, administers a program of state and local assistance, which provides federal money to support local emergency management programs involved in the State Homeland Security Process. This support is provided to counties meeting state and local requirements.

Currently, there are 12 counties participating in this program. In 2003, NEMA supported these county emergency management programs, by "passing through" \$2.7 million to local jurisdictions for the planning, exercise and training events associated with Homeland Security.

TRAINING



Students take a test at the annual Basic Certification Course at the Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island.

During 2003, NEMA supported training needs of the local emergency management organizations within the state. NEMA offered basic and advanced certification in emergency management. The Basic Certification Academy offered at the Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island, supports emergency management certification as required under Nebraska Law (RRS 81-929.46). The August Academy was condensed from seven days to five days including Sunday evening. The Basic Certification requirements have also been revised.

Beginning October 1, 2003, the basic certification includes one independent study (IS-1) and the Academy. The Academy is no longer divided into separate courses, but is one unit with a required five-day attendance. The first offering of the newly structured Academy is March 22-26, 2004.

The advanced certification is offered to encourage and enhance additional professional emergency management development. Select advance courses are offered at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Center the same week of the Basic Academy.

Training needs assessments and target audience analysis is required from all jurisdictions receiving funding through NEMA. NEMA uses this information to establish an appropriate level of training based upon local interest, wants and needs.

In 2003, NEMA continued to support the State Fire Marshal Training Division hazardous materials training programs with federal funds from the Department of Transportation. HazMat Awareness and operations courses are scheduled with the SFM Training Division. NEMA again sponsored a hazmat/CBERN technician course in September 2003. Priority spaces in the class are given to members of fire departments in the cities that have Memorandum of Understanding with the State to provide HAZMAT response teams.

The training schedule can be viewed on the agency website. In redesigning the training page, we have included electronic registration. After forwarding their registrations, attendees can check back in a week to make sure they are registered, and see the current list of attendees for the course.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Agency conducts two annual public education campaigns. The first, Winter Weather Awareness Week, provides the public with information to help them survive the rigors of blizzards, ice storms and other severe winter weather that are part of life in Nebraska.

The campaign includes a proclamation by the Governor, news releases and public service announcements that are distributed statewide. Local emergency management jurisdictions are encouraged to visit their local media to ensure coverage of the event.



In the spring, the annual Severe Weather Awareness Week ushers in the thunderstorm season in Nebraska. The Governor also issues a proclamation for this week.

Most of the state's commercial television weather anchors use materials supplied by NEMA and the NWS to educate their viewers about severe thunderstorms, which include such dangers as strong winds, lightning, hail, heavy rain, flooding and tornadoes. The Severe Weather Awareness Week, in concert with strong efforts at the local level, including trained weather spotters and warning systems of various kinds, has no doubt contributed to the incredibly low numbers of injuries and deaths from the storms.



Downtown Deshler was heavily hit by a tornado on June 22. Flooding also resulted from the severe thunderstorms that stalled in the area, producing prodigious amounts of rain.

In 2003, Nebraska suffered its first tornado-related deaths in more than 15 years. The first fatality occurred in Deshler. The second occurred in rural Cedar County near Coleridge. Both deaths could have been avoided if the victims had adhered to the tornado warnings that had been issued and they had taken shelter.

The storms began in early June. A strong band of thunderstorms hovered over South Central Nebraska sending off impulses of strong storms spinning northeast.



National Guard helicopters were used to rescue people stranded by the rising floodwaters.

The heavy rains, tornadoes and other severe weather caused widespread damage to private homes, businesses and government infrastructure across 19 counties in the state.



Much of Deshler was heavily damaged by the twisters that hammered the small town in June 2003.

By July, the storm system had also produced tornadoes and other severe weather in North East Nebraska resulting in further damage.

NEMA, with the cooperation of the National Weather Service, in 2003 began advocating the use of NOAA Weather Radio as the primary source of emergency information. By purchasing one of these inexpensive devices, a citizen will get the same information emergency managers receive. By programming your radio, you can receive alerts about severe weather, and hazardous materials incidents as well as terrorist attacks.

RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER/WARNING COORDINATION

NEMA's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is located in a 1960's era underground bunker designed to withstand anything other than a direct nuclear bomb hit. Originally designed to house Nebraska's state government in times of national emergencies such as nuclear war, it is now home for NEMA.

The Communications Center, with diesel generators that makes it self sufficient, maintains communications using NAWAS, and other systems. This enables NEMA to contact local sheriff's offices, the State Patrol's Lincoln dispatch center and FEMA through their National Radio System. In addition, ham radio, telephones and satellite phones ensure contact with the outside world.

Nebraska's system for dealing with severe weather has no doubt contributed to the low numbers of injuries and fatalities over the past few years. Trained local weather spotters and excellent weather warnings from the National Weather Service help keep Nebraskans advised of severe weather.

The NWS's NOAA weather radio system being installed across Nebraska will further enhance our warning ability. Additionally, other emergency situations, such as terrorist attacks and hazardous materials incidents, can be broadcast over NOAA weather radio.

NEMA has entered into a contract with the Center for Advanced Land Management Information Technology (CALMIT) to develop Geographical Information System (GIS) products to enhance our response capabilities by providing cutting edge mapping technology capabilities.

This partnership is providing NEMA and our State and local partners with maps that show in great detail areas that are affected by an incident, allowing us to identify building, critical infrastructure and population that are in the affected areas and to produce maps that show actions to be taken, damage assessment information and an unlimited variety of needed information.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

During 2003, Nebraska had one federally declared disaster and no State declared disasters. During a period from June 9 through July 14, Nebraska suffered a series of severe storms that caused wide spread damage to several sections of the State. Hardest hit were communities in Thayer, Jefferson, Cedar and McPherson counties. A Federal Declaration was declared on July 21. A Disaster Field Office was opened in Lincoln to coordinate the response on July 24 and was in operation through August 18.

Total Public Assistance figures from the federal disaster were \$3.9 million in 19 counties, including damage to public power districts. Applications for assistance were received from 49 jurisdictions.

HAZARD MITIGATION

When a federal disaster is declared, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program receives 7.5 percent of the total money disbursed for Public and/or Individual Assistance. This money can be used for a variety of projects designed to prevent a future disaster. For example, following a tornado, hazard mitigation funds might be used to construct a shelter or to purchase warning sirens.

NEMA, working closely with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, will continue placing a very strong emphasis on flood plain management, mitigation project development, monitoring and project completion. Nebraska utilizes the Governor's Emergency Task Force for program evaluation of mitigation projects and will continue this process. This evaluation gives a perspective outside of the Agency on the effectiveness and value of any proposed project.

Following the Federal Declaration in July, the Hazard Mitigation Taskforce identified four projects to recommend to FEMA for approval. The Nebraska Public Power District's proposal to strengthen two sections of power lines to a higher standard to resist both wind and ice, the acquisition of one additional property in Norfolk in the Elkhorn River Floodway and, in conjunction with a flood control project funded by the Nebraska Natural Resources Development Fund, the acquisition, relocation and flood proofing of structures in Ponca.



RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The Agency oversees the Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Program that consists of fixed sites, transportation and radiological systems. An Agency goal is to be prepared for any and all radiological emergencies that could affect our state by placing a strong program emphasis on effective planning, training and participation in exercises and drills. The Agency also maintains a professional instrument calibration and exchange program.

NEMA has two off-site planners responsible for emergency response off-site planning for the counties affected by the Cooper and Fort Calhoun Nuclear Power Stations in Nebraska. The Agency is also responsible for offering a variety of training for emergency personnel who would respond to a nuclear power station incident/accident.

For fixed sites, the Agency prepares local agencies for and participates itself in nuclear power station drills and exercises.

NEMA provides a representative to the Governor's Radioactive Materials Transportation Working Group. The Governor's working Group oversees the transportation of radioactive materials in and through Nebraska including the transportation of high and low-level radioactive waste.

NEMA is also responsible for the Radioactive Materials Transportation Accident Emergency Action Plan that is an annex in the State Emergency Operations Plan. The Agency's responsibilities in this area include providing Radiological Emergency Response training to State and local agencies that request it.

The Agency continues to maintain, calibrate and exchange radiological instrument kits during a four-year cycle to State and local emergency first responder agencies and facilities in all of Nebraska's 93 counties.

NEMA performed the following in 2003:

REP Training Sessions: 56

Radiological Training Courses: 23

Calibration and Exchange of Radiological Instruments: 1,115 in 21 locations.

STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION

The purpose of the SERC is to supervise and coordinate the activities of the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC). The LEPC's review the response to hazardous materials portion of the local emergency plan and act as a repository for information on hazardous materials stored, processed or manufactured in their districts. The focus of the LEPC's for 2003 was to educate their communities and make them aware of the hazardous materials in their communities and to prepare them on what to do in the event of a chemical spill or hazardous material situation.

The SERC in 2003 put together an "Emergency Action Wheel" which outlines appropriate responses to potential disasters within their communities. It lists items needed for home and auto disaster supply kits and has space available for emergency telephone numbers. These wheels are being distributed around the state and are being used for educational purposes. The SERC has also put awareness brochures and public service announcements together and, with the help of NEMA, has pursued the goal of establishing an LEPC in every county within the state. So far there are 72 active LEPC's, 14 more in development and seven anticipated to be up and running in the 2004.

The SERC was created in 1989 and has its origins in the Federal Emergency and Right to Know Act, and later the Nebraska Act.

The SERC has 19 members representing a wide range of interests. They are appointed by the Governor and are approved by the Legislature. The membership includes: Cristine Bleich, Environmental Protection; Jim Schmaizl, Nebraska Department of Roads; MG Roger P. Lempke, Adjutant General; Lynn Marshall, Local Emergency Management; Bill McLarty, City Government; Sue Semerena, Department of Health and Human Services; Richard J. Christensen, Chemical Industry; Dana Miller, Firefighters; Mark S. Reimers, Transportation; Harlan Schafer, Agribusiness; Steve Danon, Small Business; Joe Francis, Nebraska Dept. of Environmental Quality; Allen Grell, County Government; Scott Holmes, Community Health; Major Bryan Tuma, Nebraska State Patrol; Dennis Hohbein, State Fire Marshal; Steven Wood, Labor; Trucking, Vacant; Schools, Vacant.

The budget for fiscal year 2002-2003 was \$197,976.

AGENCY STAFF

NEMA has 32 full time employees devoted to the State's emergency management programs and to also support the terrorism initiatives within the state. Five staff members were added in 2003 and are funded under federal Homeland Security grants. They were assigned to assist other state agency's development of training and exercise programs specifically related to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction.



Exercising has been a major emphasis for the NEMA's Homeland Security initiatives. Here, representatives from several state agencies, attend an exercise development course taught by NEMA personnel.

Other NEMA staff continue to carry out the day-to-day workings of the Agency. Many of the staff have been assigned specific tasks related to homeland security in addition to their "normal jobs." A concentrated effort has been made within the Agency to integrate our traditional emergency management roles into the new awareness and emphasis on terrorism.



NEMA supports local jurisdictions in many ways. Participants in the annual effort to mitigate damage from ice jam flooding hear the latest on what to expect.

In addition to the tasks that must be accomplished relating to specific state agency programs, several staff personnel work closely with local jurisdictions in updating and revising local emergency operations plans. NEMA's staff also continues to plan and conduct statewide training for local first responders. Annual training is held at the Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island.

A major NEMA effort remains the staff duty officer and back up duty officer. Staff personnel rotate this task on a weekly basis. Using pagers, cell phones and other communications devices, the duty officer is the State's first point of contact to coordinate State assistance on a 24 hour a day basis.

If you desire any further information contained in this annual report, contact NEMA at (402) 471-7421. You can also contact the agency via email at tim.hergenrader@nema.state.ne.us. NEMA is located at 1300 Military Rd., Lincoln, NE 68508. The web address is www.nebema.org.